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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4006

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman House Appropriations Committee H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Pee Dee Healthy Start, Inc.'s Bridging the Gap program in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Pee Dee Healthy Start, Inc., located at 314 West Pine Street Florence, South Carolina, 29501.

The funding would be used to provide programs and services to at-risk youth, youth involved with the juvenile justice system, students suspended/expelled from high school, and youth and young adults with a propensity to delinquency or criminal behavior in Williamsburg, Florence, Sumter, Dillon, and Marion counties. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it seeks to prevent juvenile delinquency and crimes committed by youth and reduce recidivism rates. Preventing delinquency saves lives, reduces crime in the community, and saves taxpayers from the expense of incarcerating youth. Likewise, working with those already involved in the system breaks the recidivism cycle, reduces criminal behavior, and enables youth to become law-abiding productive citizens, participate in the workforce, pay taxes, lead healthy lives, raise healthy families, and not depend on social service programs.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely.

 $\mathcal{G}_{
m ames}$  E. Clyburn

Member of Congress